

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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P R 211516Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2668

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 08102

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: NATO DECLARATION: FRG VIEWS ON BRITISH TEXT

REF: STATE 104830

1. DURING MAY 21 DISCUSSION OF ATLANTIC DECLARATION WITH
FONOFF NATO DEPT DIRECTOR PFEFFER AND EC POLITICAL INTE-
GRATION DEPT DIRECTOR VON DER GABLENTZ, EMBOFF DREW

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FULLY ON GUIDANCE IN REFTEL PARAS 1-3. THE FONOFF

OFFICIALS WERE URGED TO SUPPORT UK TEXT AS WORKING BASIS FOR SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF DRAFTING EXERCISE. EMBOFF SAID AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND ALSO PLANNED TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH A SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIAL IN ORDER TO UNDERScore STRONG U.S. SUPPORT FOR ACHIEVING A SUBSTANTIVELY SATISFACTORY NATO DECLARATION BASED ON THE BRITISH TEXT.

2. PFEFFER AND GABLENTZ SAID NO DEFINITIVE FRG POSITION HAD YET BEEN ADOPTED. THEY PROMISED TO CONVEY THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR DEMARCHE TO VAN WELL.

3. PFEFFER AND GABLENTZ SAID THEY WERE CONVINCED THAT THE FRG WOULD AGREE FULLY BOTH WITH THE U.S. WISH FOR A SUBSTANTIVELY SATISFACTORY NATO TEXT (REFTEL - PARA 1) AND WITH THE STRONG U.S. PREFERENCE FOR ISSUING THAT TEXT IN THE FORM OF A DECLARATION (PARA 3).

4. THEY TENDED TO DOUBT WHETHER THE BRITISH DRAFT WOULD PROVIDE AS GOOD A BASIS FOR EXPEDITIOUS CONCLUSION OF THE NATO DECLARATION DRAFTING EXERCISE AS WOULD THE LATEST VERSION OF THE TEXT ELABORATED IN NATO. PFEFFER RECALLED U.S. PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT THE NATO DECLARATION WAS 90 PERCENT CONCLUDED. HE CONTENTED THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO RESOLVE REMAINING DIFFERENCES - INCLUDING THE CONSULTATION POINT - BY USING THE AMENDED FRENCH DRAFT AS A WORKING BASIS. PFEFFER SAID THE LATEST VERSION OF THE TEXT ELABORATED IN NATO WAS LOGICALLY CONSTRUCTED AND STYLISTICALLY CLEAR.

5. DURING VAN WELL'S MAY 16 VISIT TO PARIS, THE FRENCH, EXPRESSING "PRIDE OF AUTHORSHIP," HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD NOT WELCOME A NATO DECISION TO JETTISON THEIR DRAFT DECLARATION. PFEFFER AND GABLENTZ SAID THE GERMANS TENDED TO AGREE WITH THE FRENCH POINTS THAT THE BRITISH TEXT OVERPLAYED DETENTE (CSCE, ETC.) VIS-A-VIS DEFENSE AND UNDERPLAYED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING EUROPEAN UNIFICATION.

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HILLENBRAND

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